Border Barrier Remediation Public Feedback and Future Plans

United States Border Patrol

Infrastructure Portfolio



Agenda

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Overview

Overview of Border Barrier Projects



As of January 20, 2021, ~458 miles of barrier have been completed with sites in various stages of construction

DHS funding

~113 completed miles (~21 miles in Rio Grande Valley Sector are in various stages of construction)

Department of Defense (DoD) 284 Counter-Narcotics funding

~259 completed miles

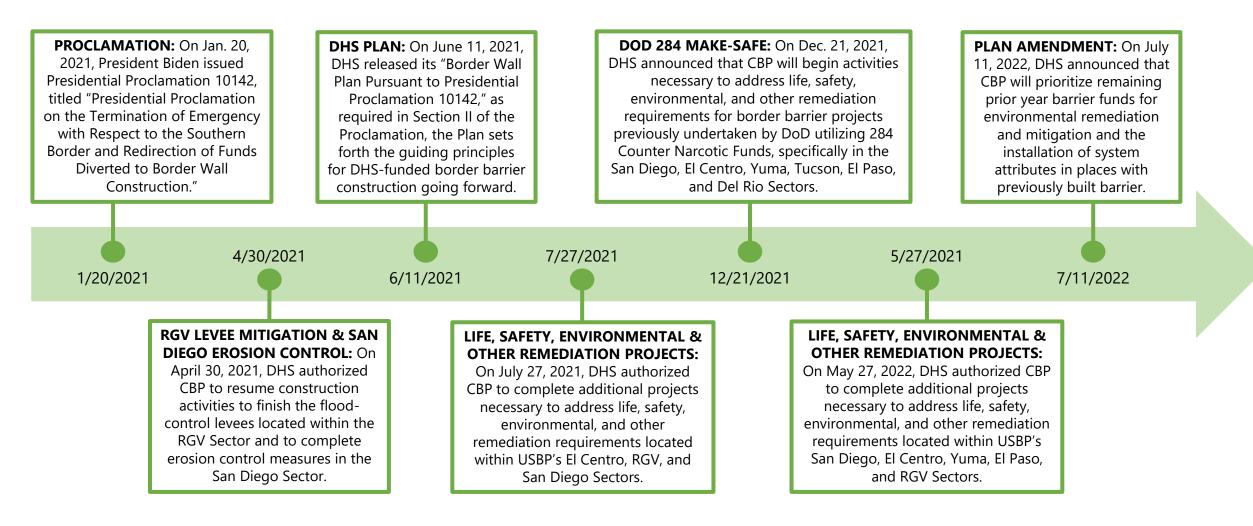
DoD 2808 Military Construction funding

~87 completed miles

Prior to the start of work, make safe activities will be the subject of an environmental planning process, including compliance with NEPA

January 20, 2021 – Today





Make Safe, Restoration, and Environmental Mitigation



DHS intends to prioritize remediation projects that are needed to address life and safety, including the protection of the public, USBP agents, and nearby communities from potential harms, and avert environmental damage or degradation.

Make Safe

- Back fill trenches
- Install signage
- Address and mitigate exposed rebar and sharp points
- Remove debris and other materials

Environmental Restoration

- Address erosion and sediment control
- Pave and stabilize slopes
- Address low-water crossings and drainage gates
- Restore, repair, and decommission roads

Environmental Mitigation

- Habitat mitigation and restoration
- Cultural resource mitigation
- Control invasive species
- Scientific studies of impact

Public Comment Periods Overview





SECTOR REMEDIATION PLAN PUBLIC COMMENT PERIODS

Where: Tucson, Rio Grande Valley, El Paso, Yuma, San Diego, Del Rio, El Centro

What: Plans summarizing remediation activities for 284-funded projects

When:

- Tucson | Jan. 4 Feb. 3, 2022
- Rio Grande Valley | Jan. March 2022
 - El Paso | March 8 April 7, 2022
 - Yuma | April 21 May 20, 2022
- San Diego | May 25 June 24, 2022
- El Centro | June 28 July 28, 2022
- Del Rio | Aug. 2 to Sept. 2, 2022

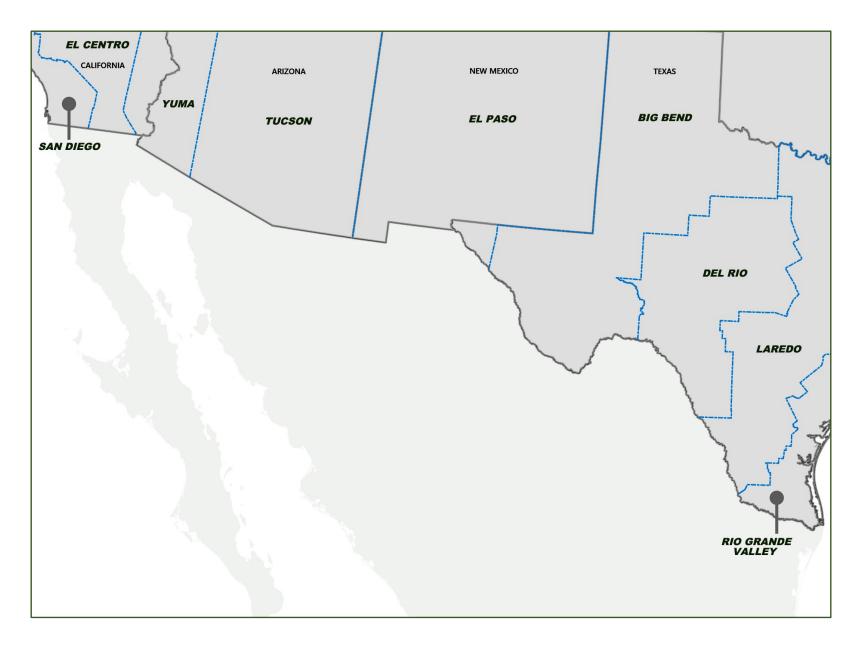
How: Emails, website, briefings, StoryMap



Current Status by Sector

Sector Map





Number of Feedback Comments Collected, by Comment Category



Comment Category	San Diego	El Centro	Yuma	Tucson	El Paso	Del Rio
Access roads	-	8	4	132	4	-
Best Practices	4	1	2	10	6	_
Border wall completion	6	-	-	47	3	-
Cultural Resources	3	5	3	24	2	2
Disturbed Land Areas	3	14	6	416	9	-
Drainages and Low Water Crossings	3	12	2	268	5	-
Erosion	3	7	2	318	7	-
Gates/Gaps	2	1	2	186	7	-
Habitat/Wildlife	2	6	4	535	12	1
Lighting	2	-	1	159	10	_
Project Priority	-	-	-	11	3	-
Public Safety and Accessibility	2	3	-	7	3	_
Virtual Wall	-	-	-	10	-	-
Other	7	3	9	231	3	2

San Diego







Comment Period: May 25 – June 24, 2022

Specific to the San Diego Sector, commenters:

- Provided input on stormwater best management practices
- Recommended consulting with impacted or interested tribes

While not part of the scope for the San Diego Sector border barrier remediation projects, commenters:

- Expressed concern about the **Tijuana River Barrier**, a bridge project over the river with storm water gates below, and about construction plans near **Friendship Park**
- Requested the restoration of the **Binational Garden**



Contracts will be awarded Fall 2022 and work will start Winter 2022–2023.



Above: Tijuana River canal in the San Diego Sector



Above: Looking down onto border barrier from construction area



Above: Friendship Park on Monument

El Centro







Comment Period: June 28 – July 28, 2022

Specific to the El Centro Sector, commenters:

- Requested berms along paved roads in **Davies and Skull valleys** (impacting water flow and challenging for animals to cross)
- Expressed concern about erosion on steep loop road and hillsides, especially in Davies Valley and near the area of wall at Mt. Signal

CONTRACTS

Contracts will be awarded Fall 2022 and work will start Winter 2022-2023.





Right: Road work in El Centro Sector

Below: Concrete work alongside the border barrier.



Right: Road construction along the border barrier







FEEDBACK

Comment Period: April 21 – May 20, 2022

Specific to the Yuma Sector, commenters:

 Recommended conducting damage assessments on cultural sites and evaluating sites for inclusion into the National Register of Historic Places



Below: Border barrier and road in Yuma Sector



Right: Disturbed land adjacent to the border barrier Below: Construction materials



Tucson







FEEDBACK

Comment Period: Jan. 4 – Feb. 3, 2022

Specific to the Tucson Sector, commenters:

- Expressed concern about the closure of gates at San Pedro River, Silver
 Creek, Black Draw, and Hay Hollow
- Warned about flooding potential in the San Pedro River and Guadalupe Canyon areas
- Suggested decommissioning or restoring roads and disturbed areas within the Coronado National Forest, Coronado National Memorial, and Guadalupe Canyon



CONTRACTS

Two contracts have been awarded and construction will start in October 2022.



LENGTH

Approximately 119 miles



Above: Wildflowers in Tucson Sector



Above: Coronado National Forest (looking east)



Right: Low water crossing







Comment Period: March 8 – April 7, 2022

Specific to the El Paso Sector, commenters:

- Suggested hiring contractors knowledgeable about contouring the land, in ecologically sound ways, for restoration of areas impacted by gouging and blasting, such as the **Whitewater and Carrizalillo Mountains**
- Noted that CBP should ensure adequate placement of gates in FEMAidentified flood zones, which includes most of the border barrier in El Paso County east of the Rio Grande



Left: Gap in border barrier in the El Paso Sector

Below: Light poles along border barrier near Deming Monument







Del Rio





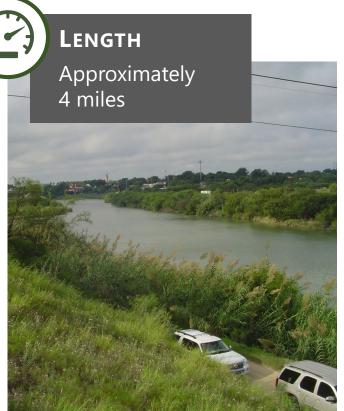


FEEDBACK

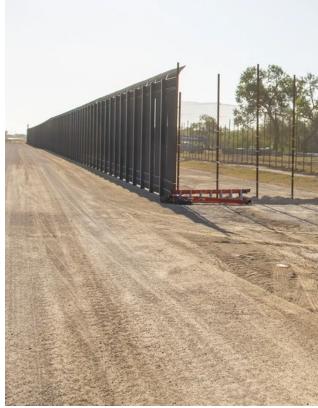
Comment Period: Aug. 2 - Sept. 2, 2022

Specific to the Del Rio Sector, commenters:

- Noted the long list of list of known designated historic properties within the Area of Potential Effect, including the **The Lee Building**, which was designated as a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark in 1968
- Expressed concern about preservation of Carrizo
 Comecrudo Tribe of Texas villages sites with wall
 paintings between Laredo and Sanderson, all the
 way to Ozuna and even up to San Angelo



Above: Border Patrol drives along the Rio Grande in the Del Rio Sector



Right: Unfinished border barrier relocation

Rio Grande Valley







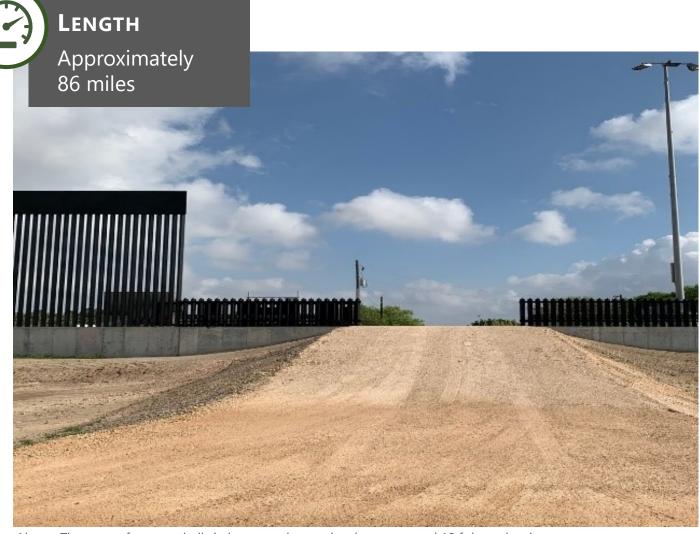
REMEDIATION WORK

CBP is working to remediate the earthen flood control levees in Hidalgo County, Texas. The earthen flood control levees are being remediated with new concrete levees.

The approved modified design for the levee repairs includes a four-to-six-foot high guardrail installed on the top of the concrete vertical flood control levee.

CONTRACTS

The majority of the levee remediation is complete. The remaining work is anticipated to be complete in late 2022.



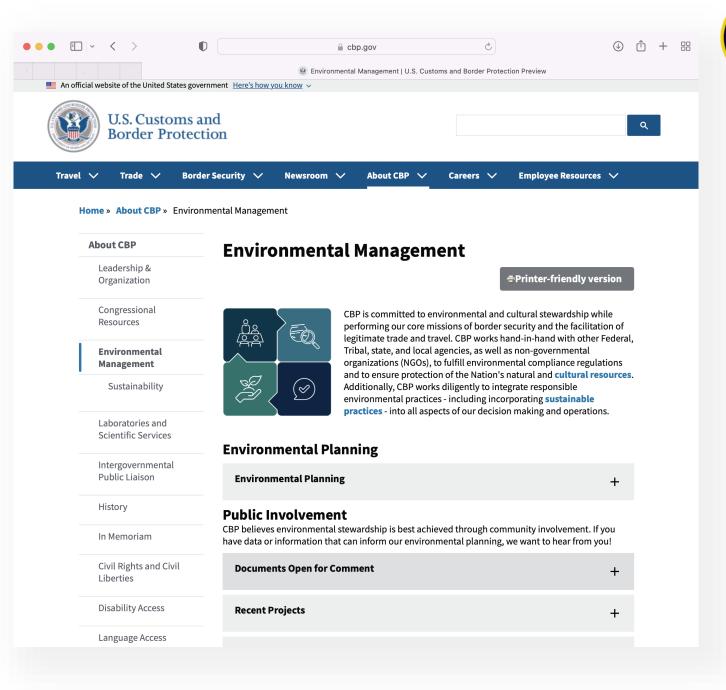
Above: The new safety guardrails in between the previously constructed 18 ft levee barrier

More Information

Further information and updates, including Spanish-language materials, can be found on the U.S. Customs and Border Protection website at cbp.gov/about/environmental-management

Send any comments to comments env@cbp.dhs.gov

Thank You!





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